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LYNTON

LYNTON
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1964.

Town Hall,
LYNTON,
North Devon.

Tel: Nos:
Lynton 3288.
Lynton 2204.

LYNTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To: The Chairman and Members of
the Lynton Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my ANNUAL REPORT for the year ended 31st December 1964.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. M.P. Nightingale, M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P.
"Kneesworth", Lee Road, LYNTON.
Private Tel: No: Lynton 2204.

Chief Public Health Inspector: Mr. T.J. Loveless, A.I.A.S.,
M.A.P.H.I.
Town Hall, LYNTON.
Tel: No: Lynton 3288.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	7,628
Population (Reg.Gen. Mid-year Estimate) ...	1,680
Number of inhabited houses	610
Rateable Value	£57,472.
Sum represented by ld. Rate	£239. 9. 4.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births: Legitimate: Males 13. Females 9. Total	22
Illegitimate: Males - Females 1. Total	1
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	13.69
	(15.61
	(Corrected)
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.35
Still births: Legitimate	Nil
Illegitimate	Nil
Total Live and Still births	23
Infant deaths under 1 year	2
Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 total live births	86.96
" " " " " " " " Legitimate	86.96
" " " " " " " " Illegitimate ..	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks	
per 1,000 total live births)	86.96
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week	
per 1,000 total live births)	86.96
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths under	
1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	86.96
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil
Deaths Males 15 Females 16 Total	31
Death rate per 1,000 population	18.45
Death rate per 1,000 population adjusted	11.439
Births: Comparability Factor	1.14
Deaths: Comparability Factor	0.62

Deaths.

18 had reached the age of 75 and over.

9	"	"	"	"	65	-	75
2	"	"	"	"	55	-	65

Deaths from:

Tuberculosis, Other	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	2
Coronary Disease, Angina	3
Hypertension with heart disease	2
Other heart disease	6
Other circulatory disease	1
Pneumonia	3
Bronchitis	2
Other Defined and Ill-defined diseases	4
Other diseases of Respiratory system	1
Total	<u>31</u>

Notifiable Diseases.

Measles	<u>88</u>
Total	<u>88</u>

There were no cases of food poisoning reported during the year and I am pleased to mention the very low incidence of seasonal gastro-enteritis which no doubt is due mainly to the improved hygiene within the Urban District.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

The Chest Clinic for this area is held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple.

Tuberculosis.

Treatment for tuberculosis is carried out at the Hawley Sanatorium in the Borough of Barnstaple and at Hawkmoor Sanatorium near Bovey Tracey.

Venereal Disease.

There were no reports of Venereal Disease. The nearest centre for treatment is at Barnstaple North Devon Infirmary and any cases that occur in this Urban District go direct to Barnstaple.

Ambulance Service.

Responsibility for the provision of an Ambulance Service rests with the County Council and its Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided by the Lynton St. John

Ambulance Association.

The Staff consists of one part-time Member, 4 men Volunteers and 10 Volunteer Nurses. The Ambulance is garaged at Cross Street, Lynton. The Hospital Car Service is available on application by the Doctors to the Hospital.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The nearest Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases is the Kingsley Hospital at Bideford.

Maternity.

There are two beds for maternity cases at the Lynton & District Cottage Hospital, with a fully qualified staff available. At the North Devon Infirmary there is an additional Ward available for cases of difficulty.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics are conducted at the Lynton Cottage Hospital by each General Practitioner in co-operation with the Hospital Staff.

Home Help Scheme.

The Home Nursing Service is operated by one District Nurse in conjunction with Nursing and Midwifery duties. In addition, assistance in the home is given by one Home Help.

Child Welfare.

The Centre is now held at the Methodist School Room, Lee Road, Lynton (near the Town Hall) and is open on the first and third TUESDAYS in the month, with a County Council Welfare Worker in attendance.

National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47).

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Preliminary action was taken in one instance for the removal of a person at Lynmouth to the Alexandra Hospital, Barnstaple.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination and Immunisation are carried out by the General Practitioners of the area and also at the Welfare Centre and the School Clinics.

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are available for Bacteriological examinations of all kinds at the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter.

Water Supply.

The following information regarding the main water supply from the North Devon Water Board's Works at Dean Steep, Lynton, has been kindly given by the Chief Engineer (North).

The supply has been entirely satisfactory, both in quality and quantity, and no restrictions have had to be imposed. Bacteriological samples are taken weekly from various consumers taps in the area of the supply and of the 106 samples taken, all proved satisfactory and equivalent to a class 1 piped supply. Samples for bacteriological examination are not normally taken of the raw water, as this is known to vary from day to day, according to rainfall but, in view of the substantial increase in camping during the Summer season within the catchment area of the stream which feeds the intake, weekly samples will be taken throughout the summer of 1965, which should indicate the extent of pollution contributed by seasonal camping. Previous reports have contained The Counties Public Health Laboratories' reports on the samples taken from the raw water inlet and the samples submitted after treatment and these examination reports are still applicable.

The supply is not plumbo-solvent and no action is necessary with regard to contamination.

Standpipes from Public Mains are not used in Lynton, supplies being taken direct to all properties. The number of dwelling houses supplied direct from public mains is 520 and the estimated population supplied 1,490.

Six samples from private supplies in the outlying district have been taken and four samples were equivalent to a class 1 piped supply and two samples showed slight contamination.

The 500,000 gallon service reservoir in the Old Station vicinity is now complete and will come into use in 1965. Properties at the Old Station will then be able to take a supply from the main.

The scheme to provide a main piped supply to Brendon and Rockford commenced this year and this scheme involves the construction of a 20,000 gallon service reservoir at Scoresdown, Lynton, a 4" pumping main from the treatment works at Dean Steep to the service reservoir, and a 4" gravity distribution main from the service reservoir to the villages of Brendon and Rockford. Farms and dwellings in the Barbrook and West Lyn area will also be able to take a supply of water from the mains.

Improvement of the existing mains system in the townships of Lynton and Lynmouth was made by the installation of additional valves at important mains junctions, the separation of combined service pipes, the provision of additional stop taps to services and the linking of the high and low pressure mains at Lynmouth.

Sewerage.

The main sewerage systems in Lynton and Lynmouth operated satisfactorily without any complaints and additional inspection chambers were constructed in Queen Street and Cavendish Place to allow access to the main sewers for cleansing.

The continued delay in the provision of the sewerage system for Barbrook Village is disappointing and it is hoped that my next report will contain a reference to the commencement of this important scheme.

Rainfall.

The following figures of rainfall were recorded on the Manor Grounds at Lynmouth during 1964:-

	<u>Inches</u>
January	.92
February	.89
March	1.93
April	1.69
May	2.15
June	1.40
July	2.14
August	1.54
September	1.74
October	4.51
November	4.70
December	6.23
	<u>29.84</u>

Swimming Pool.

Only one swimming pool exists in the Urban District and is under the control of the local authority. The Pool is sited on the Esplanade foreshore, Lynmouth, and is covered completely by each tide.

Public Cleansing.

The collection and disposal of refuse, both from household and trade premises, was made weekly during the Winter months, and twice-weekly collections, with thrice-weekly collections from large houses and hotels, during the holiday period. Farm houses and dwellings in outlying areas receive, by agreement, quarterly collections.

Rodent Control.

It is pleasing to report again that the refuse tip remained free from heavy rodent infestation throughout the year and that periodic treatment with Warfarin successfully kept the tip under control. A successful annual treatment of the Council's sewers was carried out in Lynton and Lynmouth.

Complaints of rodent infestation were still received from premises adjoining the river banks but this should cease with the discontinuance of the deposit of waste food on the river walls.

All treatments and inspections were carried out by the Council's part-time Rodent Operator.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food Premises in the District:-

	<u>Type</u>	
Bakehouses		1
Butcher's Shops		4
Cafes and Restaurants		18
Confectioners		9
Dairies		1
Grocer's Shops		8
Greengrocers		4
Licensed Premises		10
Hotel and Boarding Houses		46
Fish and Chip Shops		1
Fish Shops		1

Twenty five Food Premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale of Ice Cream.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955/60.

Thirty visits were paid to Food Premises during the year and there has been an improvement in the standards of the premises visited. No formal action has been necessary.

Meat Inspection.

The private slaughterhouse in Lynton did not operate during 1964, all Butchers obtaining their meat from outside the Urban District.

Condemned Foodstuffs.

The following foodstuffs were condemned and disposed of by the Council at their Refuse tip:-

Tinned Meat	11 tins
Meat	50 lbs.
Other Foods (Chocolate)	8 boxes.

Milk Supply.

Four purveyors of milk are registered as distributors in the district.

Petroleum.

The number of licensed premises in the year was 9.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING.

Licensed Sites.

<u>Name of Site.</u>	<u>Static Holiday.</u>	<u>Touring.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Sunny Lyn, Lynbridge	22	16	38
West Lyn, Manor Farm	20	32	52
Dean Steep, Lynton	6	-	6
High Bullen	1	-	1
Sixacre Wood, Lee Abbey	1	-	1

The problem of "roadside" camping was again this year, as in other coastal resorts, a source of public health nuisance, and it is hoped some solution to this increasing problem will be found.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

The number of premises registered during 1964 was 39. Persons employed at registered premises were 53 males and 72 females - a total of 125 persons.

Total number of inspections made - 30.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Part 1 of the Act.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	5	3	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	1	Nil	Nil
Total	6	4	Nil	Nil

Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspectr.	Referred by H.M. Inspectr.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOUSING.

(a) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	6
(b) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority..	4
(c) Number of representations made to Local Authority with a view to (1) the service of notices requiring execution of works or (2) the making of Demolition or Closing Orders	Nil.
(d) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	Nil.
(e) Number of Closing Orders made	Nil.
(f) Number of Demolition Orders made	Nil.
(g) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted	Nil.
(h) Number of houses demolished	Nil.

I have the honour to be
Ladies and
Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

M.P. NIGHTINGALE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

